

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-32 have been amended. In general, the claims have been amended for matters as to form. In addition, FIGs. 4, 5, 6, and 9 have been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

I. Drawings

The drawings (FIGs. 4, 5, 6, and 9) were objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(h). Applicant has amended each of the Figures as discussed above to overcome the Examiner's objections.

II. The §112 Rejections

Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

To clarify the claims, Applicant has amended each of claims 1, 13, 16-18, and 30 to replace "at" with "by" as suggested by the Examiner. Further, with respect to claims 18 and 30, Applicant has amended the preambles of each claim to recite that the computer program instructions comprise instructions for performing the steps recited in each claim.

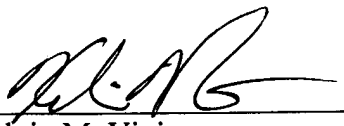
III. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-32 would be allowable if amended to overcome the §112 rejections above. Applicant has done so, and therefore claims 1-32 should be in condition for allowance.

Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings includes changes to FIGs. 4, 5, 6, and 9, and replaces the original sheets including FIGs. 4, 5, 6, and 9.

In FIGs. 4, 6, and 9, shading was removed from each of the diamonds to prevent confusion due to scanning issues (i.e., some diamonds appeared dark, while others were clear). In FIG. 5, an arrow was added to connect step 508 to step 515 (as discussed in the specification at page 14 lines 25-27). No new matter has been added.

Replacement Sheets (4 pages)